

Swine Flu Information

Swine influenza in pigs:

- Swine Influenza Virus infections are a common cause of respiratory illness in pigs.
- Flu vaccines for pigs can help, but are not 100% effective. One reason is that several different strains of flu can infect pigs and vaccines may not protect against all strains.
- Infected pigs usually show signs of disease about 3 days post exposure and then are sick and infectious for about a week.
- Pigs may show a variety of signs of disease, including coughing, runny nose and/or eyes, sneezing, depression, lack of appetite, depression, difficulty breathing and fever. The fever can cause them to abort a pregnancy.
- Spread of the virus from pig to pig can be rapid and occurs via direct contact, getting carried on something that was not cleaned, and via respiratory excretions that become airborne for a short distance.
- According to CDC, swine influenza virus is not considered a threat to food safety. Swine influenza viruses are not spread by food. You cannot get swine influenza from eating pork or pork products. Eating properly handled and cooked pork and pork products is safe.

Owners of sick pigs are encouraged to call their veterinarian or CDFA.

- CDFA and USDA officials work together with animal owners and veterinarians to look for unusual swine influenza outbreaks in pig populations on a regular basis.
- Owners of sick pigs with questions should call the Animal Health Branch District Office nearest them. (District map attached)
- Appropriate samples may be submitted to any of the California Animal Health and Food Safety Labs (CAHFSL map attached)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture always recommends proper hygiene and health management practices when working with animals, which include:

- Wash hands before and after working with animals.
- Keep new animals separate from your herd for two weeks and observe for signs of disease.
- More specific swine biosecurity recommendations may be found on the National Pork Board website <http://www.pork.org>

For more detailed information related to swine influenza in pigs:

<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>

<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/SwineInfluenza.aspx>

http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Swine_Health.html#Flu

<http://www.pork.org>

Our Mission

The mission of the San Bernardino County Animal Care & Control Program is to prevent rabies in humans and pets, to educate the public about responsible pet ownership, including the importance of spaying and neutering, to protect and serve the public and pets by enforcing all laws and ordinances pertaining to Animal Care & Control, to care for all animals domestic and wild, to reunite lost pets with their owners, to place unwanted pets into new homes, and to maintain a high quality of service.

Service Areas

The San Bernardino County Animal Care & Control Program services the unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County and the contract cities of Big Bear Lake, Highland, Rialto (shelter services only) and Yucaipa.